C O N N E C T I C U T W E E K L Y



NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

FARM-TO-CHEF TRADE/BUYING SHOW TO BE HELD FEB 23

By the Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

On Saturday, February 23, 2013, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farm to Chef Program will host *Growing Farmer-Chef Relationships*, a trade/buying show that will introduce Connecticut Grown producers to chefs and foodservice buyers. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Manchester Community College. Early registration must be postmarked by January 31, 2013.

This is an opportunity for farmers to meet and develop relationships with chefs and buyers from some of the state's finest small, medium, and large restaurants, as well as from Connecticut institu-

tions—e.g., schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, corporate cafeterias, and state-run facilities—that seek to serve quality Connecticut Grown ingredients to their diners.

Going beyond a "meet-andgreet" or even "get-to-know-yourfarmer" approach, the Farm-to-

Chef Program is encouraging farmers and chefs to enter into agreements in advance of the season to help balance supply and demand, and to share the risks associated with growing, producing, and using fresh, local farm products.

A sample agreement form for a 10-week purchasing period will be provided to all attendees for this purpose, with the option to modify the length or other terms to meet the needs of both parties. The sample calls for half the season's purchases be paid in advance, with the balance paid at the end of the contract period—but this too can be modified to suit the needs of both seller and buyer.

Each participating farm will be provided space to set up a table display with information about its crop plans, product lines, and wholesale price lists for the upcoming season. Producers will be

grouped by category. Tasting is not allowed due to health regulations, but fresh product may be displayed. A producer information form will be sent out to registrants, who are encouraged to fill it out completely and bring copies to hand out at the event.

Early registration fee is \$10 per farm or foodservice business (up to three attendees from the same company). Early registration must be mailed in with payment (check only) and postmarked no later than January 31, 2013.

Late registration fee (after January 31) is \$15 per person. Late registration must be hand-delivered to the Department of Agriculture

with payment (check or cash only) by noon on February 22, 2013.

Registration forms and additional information about the event are available on the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's website, www.CTGrown.gov (look under "Featured Links")

Department of Agriculture's website, www.CTGrown.gov (look under "Featured Links").

The Department of Agriculture launched the Farm-to-Chef Program in 2006 to help connect the state's farmers with chefs and foodservice buyers. It has

the state's farmers with chefs and foodservice buyers. It has hosted annual meetings, farm and seafood tours, demonstrations, and other events; produced a monthly newsletter; and coordinated Farm-to-Chef Week each year in September, during which restaurants and other eateries create and offer special Farm-to-Chef menus featuring Connecticut Grown ingredients.

Moving forward, the program is looking to the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development, which has spent the past year working on the first-ever, holistic strategic plan for Connecticut agriculture, to help it better serve its members. The council has identified restaurants and institutions as a significant opportunity for Connecticut farmers.

(continued on Page 3)

GREENHOUSE GROWN PRODUCE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL

	Low	High
CUCMBR,Sdlss,12ct,MX	14.00	16.00
CUCMBR,Prsn,20lb,CN	20.00	22.00
EGGPLNT,5kg,SP	32.00	33.00
ENDIVE,8lb,CA	26.00	26.00
LEEKS,5kg,NT	19.00	19.00
MACHE,3lb,PA	12.00	12.00
PEPPER,Rd bell,11lb,DN	15.00	18.00
RHUBARB,6kg,NT	32.00	32.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

January 28, 2013

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Sold by actual w	eights; prices quo	ted by hundred wt
49-54	220-300 lbs	63.00-66.00
	300-400 lbs	64.00-67.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	59.00-62.00
	300-400 lbs	61.00-64.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	43.50-45.50
	500-700 lbs	48.50-51.50
Boars:	300-700lbs	16.00-17.50

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, January 28, 2013

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Live animals brought the fo	ollowing ave. p	rices per cw
Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	28.00	32.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	42.00
76-90 lbs.	50.00	54.00
91-105 lbs.	55.00	60.00
106 lbs. & up	62.50	64.00
Farm Calves	65.00	67.50
Starter Calves	25.00	34.00
Veal Calves	60.00	125.00
Open Heifers	80.00	85.00
Beef Steers	74.00	94.00
Beef Heifers	68.00	85.00
Feeder Steers	85.00	100.00
Stock Bulls	73.00	110.00
Beef Bulls	71.00	87.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	75.00	80.00
Goats each	115.00	125.00
Kid Goats	60.00	115.00
Canners	Up to	77.50
Cutters	78.25	80.00
Utility Grade Cows	81.00	85.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	22.00
Chickens each	4.00	21.00
Ducks each	5.00	16.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Lambs	60.00	117.50
Sheep	50.00	100.00



WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES **NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE,Empr,140ct,fcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE,Fuji,100ct ,fcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE,Gala,125ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Gld del,12-3lb,fcy,2-1/2"	18.00	18.00
APPLE,Gld del,72ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Mac,80ct,fcy	28.00	28.00
APPLE,Mac,96ct,fcy	27.00	27.00
APPLE,Mac,12-3lb,fcy,2-1/2"	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Rd del,100ct,fcy	21.00	21.00
BEAN SPRT,10lb	5.50	6.00
CIDER,4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER,9/.5gal	27.00	27.00
LETTUCE,Bostn,12ct,gh	14.50	16.00
PARSNIPS,25lb	21.00	21.00
POTATOES,10lb,szA	2.00	2.00
POTATOES,Chef,50lb	9.00	10.00
POTATOES,Rsst,90ct	10.50	11.00
POTATOES,Wht,10/5	9.00	10.00
POTATOES,Yllw,10/5lb	15.00	15.00
RUTABAGA,50lb	13.00	14.00
SQUASH,Bttrnt,1-1/9	11.00	12.00
TOMATOES,Chrry,5lb	16.00	16.00
TURNIPS,25lb,Prpl top	10.00	10.00



(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

January 28, 2013

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers 75-80% lean

72.50-77.50 n/a 66.00-71.00

Boners 80-85% lean

72.00-76.00 n/a 66.00-69.00

Lean 88-90% lean

68.00-70.50 72.50-74.50 60.00-67.50

CALVES: All prices per cwt.

Graded Bull Calves

No.1 95-125lbs 135.00-150.00

No.2 85-120lbs 120.00-135.00

No.3-80-120lbs 90.00-110.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS

Yield Grade 1

885--1940lbs 92.00-97.00

HOLSTEIN HEIFERS

80-105lbs 110.00-150.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Trad. Markets Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3

50-60lbs 182.00-190.00 60-70lbs 165.00-175.00

70-80lbs 180.00-190.00



WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND **SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown eggs in cartons, delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.69-1.81
LARGE	1.57-1.69
MEDIUM	1.19-1.33

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

January 28, 2013

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	1.46-1.50
LARGE	1.44-1.48
MEDIUM	1.18-1.22

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY

January 28, 2013 Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	6.95-7.60
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	7.05-8.67
Oats No 2 (per bu)	2.95-4.50
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	13.00-14.24
Far Corn (per top)	180 00-215 00



Wooled & Shorn Good & Choice 3-4

50-60lbs 217.00-250.00

60-70lbs 217.00-235.00

80-100lbs n/a

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh

78.00-90.00 90-170lbs 120-175lbs n/a

180-225lbs n/a

Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh

125-150lbs 50.00-80.00 160-195lb 52.00-72.00 225-250lbs 62.00-67.00

SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by the head, est. wt.

40-45lbs 90.00-100.00 50-55lbs 110.00-118.00 60-80lbs 124.00-144.00 80-110lbs 152.00- 165.00

Nannies/Does: 110-125lbs 130.00-157.00

130-140lbs 142.00-170.00

Bucks/Billies: 125-140lbs 200.00-237.00

100-145lbs 165.00-200.00

Selection 2

150-175lbs n/a n/a

150-165lbs

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

- 1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.
- 2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.
- 3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.
- 4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.
- 5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.
- 8-R. Hay, first and second cut, square bales. \$6.00 pu. 860-537-1974.
- 9-R. 2 year old Polled Hereford bull for sale or possible lease. Low birth weight, all white face and great disposition. Available in late February. Reg # is P43233769. Asking \$3,200.00. My cell is 860-304-5299.
- 10-R. IH 574 with bucket loader. 3 pt hitch, 52 PTO hp, low hours, good condition. Asking \$6,500.00. My cell is 860-304-5299.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 6-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.
- 7-R Five + acres of beautiful prime farmland available in Old Lyme for an experienced organic vegetable farmer, rent-free in exchange for a percentage of the crop. Barn, electric fencing, drip irrigation and access to tractor and other equipment. Inexpensive housing available nearby. Possible assistance available in marketing crops to restaurants, farm markets, CSA's, etc. Call Bill 860-908-7332 or upperpond-farm@gmail.com

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 for more information.

USDA FINALIZES NEW MICROLOAN PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced a new microloan program designed to help small and family operations and beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers secure loans under \$35,000.

The new microloan program is aimed at bolstering the progress of producers through their start-up years by providing needed resources and helping to increase equity so that farmers may eventually graduate to commercial credit and expand their operations. The interest rate changes monthly and was 1.25 percent in January.

Producers can apply for a maximum of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation, delivery vehicles, and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses.

For more information about applying for a microloan, contact your local <u>Farm Service Agency office</u>.

FARM-TO-CHEF TRADE/BUYING SHOW FEB 23

(continued from Page 1)

To date, the council's planning process has included 110 hours of in-depth information interviews with key stakeholders, an online survey completed by 232 participants, four regional listening sessions around the state, and a full day of topic-focused meetings, to which 90 experts in specific subject areas were invited to brainstorm and prioritize ideas for recommendations.

One of the three breakout sessions at that full-day event focused on farm-to-institution (including farm-to-restaurant) channels and the infrastructure needed to support those channels. The group determined that enhanced infrastructure to enable better aggregation, light processing, and distribution is a key component to turning the curve in farm-to-institution channels here in Connecticut.

Many farms in the state are interested in doing business with restaurants and institutional facilities, and many restaurants and institutions want to use Connecticut Grown farm products. A gap exists, however, in farms' ability to produce sufficient and consistent supply—in the forms needed—of the products sought by those customers.

A hospital cafeteria, for example, may serve 2,500 meals a day, 365 days a year. Few, if any farms in the state can supply the ingredients for all of these meals in a form that the cafeteria kitchen can use. The amount of product (number of pounds), seasonality of that product (June through September growing period), and form of that product (raw, whole, unpeeled) can all be barriers to supplying the hospital's needs.

Infrastructure that would enable several farms to combine loads; processing equipment that could peel, chop, and even freeze or otherwise extend shelf-life; and a distribution system that provides convenient, affordable delivery of those products would open doors for Connecticut's producers and much better position them to establishing real, long-term, and profitable relationships with institutional customers.

The ideas generated at November's topic-focused meetings have been incorporated into the council's first annual report, which will be presented to Governor Malloy in the coming weeks. The report recommends action steps that will help Connecticut farmers strengthen, diversify, and improve their businesses.

In addition, the council will be dedicating three working groups to farm-to-institution channels, each focusing on a different subset. One will concentrate on restaurants; another will home in on public K-12 schools and state purchasing; the third will focus on colleges and universities, private K-12 schools, healthcare facilities, and corporate cafeterias. These groups will begin meeting in the next few months and continue to identify priorities and recommend steps that will further enhance these markets.

The council's work in this area dovetails with that of the Farm-to-Chef Program and will help direct the program as it moves forward in 2013 and beyond to better serve its members. This is a time of transition for the Farm-to-Chef Program, but one that ultimately will benefit not only the state's farmers but everyone served by Connecticut's many and diverse restaurants and institutions.

For more information about the Farm-to-Chef Program, please visit www.CTGrown.gov/FarmtoChef. For more information about the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development, go to www.CTGrown.gov/GovernorsCouncil.

SUBMIT INFO NOW FOR DOAG CT GROWN BROCHURES AND WEBSITE LISTINGS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture offers a variety of online listings on the Publications page of its website, www.CTGrown.gov. Listings include agritourism, dairy producers, farm stands, farmers' markets, honey, meat producers, pick-yourown farms, and—new this year—poultry and egg producers.

Connecticut producers interested in participating must complete and return an application (available at http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3243&q=430982) for each applicable listing. There is no fee or application deadline for inclusion on the website.

Printed brochures will be produced as funding permits. To be included in this year's printed farmers' market brochure, information must be submitted by March 15, 2013. Applications must be submitted by March 22, 2013, to be included in the printed pick-yourown brochure. Neither has a listing fee.

Applications can be submitted by email to DoAg.Marketing@ct.gov, by fax to 860-713-2516, or via mail to the following address:

Brochure Program

Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Marketing Unit
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 129

Hartford, CT 06106

For more information, please call 860-713-2503 or email DoAg.Marketing@ct.gov.

FREE ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS WITH AG PROFESSIONALS

Sit down with an agribusiness professional for up to one hour, free of charge, to discuss farm related questions, concerns, and techniques to help your agribusiness succeed. Agricultural professionals have been recruited for the following sessions:

- estate planning and farm transfer;
- farm business and marketing;
- transitioning to organic production;
- dealing with local officials; and
- crop insurance.

Call Rose Narita at 860-887-1608 for more information or to sign up. To register, you will need to provide a short overview of the purpose for your visit, including specific questions or issues so the professional is prepared for your meeting. Sessions will be filled on a first-call, first-registered basis.

FEB 5 DEADLINE: SBA DISASTER LOANS

The U.S. Small Business Administration is reminding small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes that February 5, 2013 is the filing deadline for federal economic injury disaster loans available in Fairfield and Litchfield counties as a result of frosts and freezes beginning March 1, 2012.

Call 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or email <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u> for details.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by

noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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